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Atty. Docket No. PALM-0906

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:)	
Canova et al.)	Examiner: Datskovskiy, M.
Application No.: 10/080,437)	Art Unit: 2835
Filed: February 21, 2002)	
For: A HOUSING FOR A COMPUTING)	
APPARATUS (AS AMENDED))	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Declaration of Inventor To Be Considered Either Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

I, the undersigned hereby Declare:

1. I am an inventor of the above-listed application ("Application").
2. I have reviewed the Application, including what I believe are the Claims in their Current Form, and the Claims that were pending in this application as of November 24, 2003, as presented to me by Van Mahamedi, the attorney of record for this matter. I have also reviewed the reference U.S. Patent Des. No. 416,001 to Tal ("TAL").
3. Prior to October 30, 1998, I was either:
 - (i) an employee/contractor of Ideo Product Development Company ("IDEO"); or
 - (ii) I was an employee of 3Com Corporation.
4. At the time, IDEO and 3Com Corporation were working together to develop a housing for a new personal digital assistant ("PDA"), which at the time was code named RAZOR. The RAZOR eventually became a product named the PALM V. The RAZOR/PALM V housing was the basis for both the Application and the reference TAL.
5. The Invention was reduced to practice before October 30, 1998, the filing date of TAL. The reduction to practice of the invention is evidenced by the attached document, entitled "interim meeting 5/13/97" ("Interim Meeting"), and "Razor Meeting @Palm" ("Razor Meeting"), both of which are attached to this document. I believe the meeting notes are accurately dated to May 13, 1997 and June 5, 1997 respectively ("Exhibit Dates"). The attached document confirms my belief and understanding that the housing for the PALM V was substantially developed prior to the Exhibit Dates, and that this housing included the following features:

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(i) a side slot for receiving a stylus, where the side slot is partially opened and extends in a lengthwise direction of the housing, as shown on the second and third sheets of Interim Meeting, and in the drawing on the second sheet of Razor Meeting;

(ii) identical side slots (as described in (i) above) on each lateral side of the housing, as described in the first bullet item on the second sheet of Interim Meeting, and in the second sheet of Razor Meeting;

(iii) a housing construction having a front and back shell, as showed by the second sheet of Razor Meeting; and

(iv) a cover with a stylus-type end-piece that can extend into the side slot of the device housing, as shown by the second sheet of Razor Meeting.

6. The documents entitled Razor Meeting and Interim Meeting illustrate that the housing developed for RAZOR at the time of the Exhibit Dates match the housing features of the finished product, the PALM V. As such, the documents entitled documents entitled Razor Meeting and Interim Meeting confirm my belief that the inventive features listed in the preceding paragraph, the Claims in their Current Form, and the Claims as of November 24, 2003, were reduced to practice before October 30, 1998.

7. I hereby declare, under 37 C.F.R. §1.68, that all statements herein made of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. I hereby acknowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both (18 U.S.C. § 1001) and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signed: _____


Date: _____

Print name: Francis J. Canova

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Print name: Robert Gregory Twiss

Signed:  _____

Date: _____

Print name: Jeffrey C. Hawkins

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Print name: Amy Han

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Print name: Traci Angela Neist

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Print name: Elisha Avraham Tal

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Print name: Dennis Joseph Boyle

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Print name: Madeleine Francavilla

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